

THE BULLETIN:

BY E. H. BRITTON:

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SPECIAL ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.
HEADQUARTERS M. R. S. CAMP COLEMAN, on the Chowan, N. C., April 30th, 1863.

MR. EDITOR:—Nothing to do—the enemy having gone all beyond our reach. We have taken in the Buffaloes that can be found in this region—the last one was brought in on Saturday last. The enemy proposes to pay us a visit in one of their gunboats, and in return we propose to receive them. The day has not been set yet for the banquet, but that, we shall leave for them, as we are ready at any time. The floor of the great hall has been swept and the tasteful furniture set in order. The sound of the music will announce the opening of the ball and the readiness on our part to give a cheerful response. It is reported that they will visit the fisheries before coming to the banquet, but we will advise them to stay out of the kitchen and not disturb the cook. The messenger will go almost with lightning speed. They are determined to keep out of our way.

A party reconnoitered on the other side of the river last week, but found nothing in the shape of a Buffalo, or Abolitionist, except a dog in the deserted camp which swung its head as if cognizant of having been in bad company. If an animal which has nothing more than instinct shall show such signs of shame, how will Buffalo of the human species rest at ease. No matter how debased they are, a second thought must make them miserable. A large number of them deserted when the Abolitionists moved the camp from the opposite side of the river and are now between two fires. They will be shot for desertion on the one side and hung for traitors on the other. Their position then is desperate, without hope.

There are many suspected persons in this region, but nothing can be proven of their disloyalty. Some are attempting to conceal their corn, fodder, &c., but that is attributed to their not wishing to take Confederate money, but if any of them escapes our commissary sergeant, we will give him or their free papers. They would be much better off to keep quiet and not be at all frightened.

I see that some journalists think that there will be no more fighting until the coming fall. What they form their opinion upon it is difficult to tell. The general idea seems to be that the enemy is confident of starving us out and therefore will await that time. I will give them credit for a little more wisdom than that, with all their fanaticism. Their senses have not left them yet; if so, there is some hope of the war ending soon. There will be more fighting yet, if not in the East, it certainly will be in the West, and that too desperate. Our only hope now is in the West. The rebellion of the Northwest, which I think is reduced to a certainty sooner or later. Upon that will depend the period of the present war as it has been admitted by the enemy that from that region comes the strength of their army—the bone and sinew.

The people generally cannot understand the movement about Washington, N. C.—The backward movement of Gen. Hill and leaving the citizens to the mercy of the enemy. I learn that they are burning houses and driving women and children from their homes. If such a movement was in contemplation for any length of time previous to the act, they might have sent the 63d down to protect the citizens. The Mecklenburg Rangers are acquainted with many of the ladies and would have stood by them to the last. The country is so situated that we could keep back a regiment if not more. They were afraid of us when we were there, and I am certain that we would give them some of the same lessons if we were permitted to return.

The company is enjoying very good health at this time, there being no case of sickness of any consequence—perhaps a little cold or something of like nature.

HAL.

Particulars of the Skirmish below Kinston on Tuesday.

From the Richmond Examiner.]

Kinston, N. C., April 29.

ED. PROGRESS:—At three o'clock yesterday, the Yankees attacked our pickets at the end of the Sand Ridge, about eleven or twelve miles below this place. Our pickets consisted in all of about thirty men. A skirmish ensued, our men giving back gradually to Gum Swamp, where we had about one hundred and seventy-five men. Here our pickets, after joining our forces, made a stand and a severe fight ensued, continuing until six o'clock. Our men being outnumbered four to one were compelled to give back, the Yankees taking possession of our works. The enemy encamped at Gum Swamp last night. Our loss is three killed and eight wounded and about five taken prisoners. Among the killed is Lt. Lutterloh, from Fayetteville. He was brought to Kinston last night, at one o'clock, and died this morning at six.

He was part of the works encouraging his men, when he received in the right side a wound from a minnie ball, passing through to the spine. A more noble and brave soldier never lived. His conduct on the field is spoken of by all who witnessed his fall, in the highest terms. Our forces were commanded by Col. Faison, a gallant officer, who has well discharged his duty. Our men fought well, often borrowing cartridges from those on their right and left when theirs would give out. The Yankees force was about two thousand, supposed to be commanded by Col. Jones, a Yankee Colonel. The names of the other two of our men that was killed I have been unable to learn. The loss of the enemy is not known but supposed to be much larger than ours. A regiment of Yankees attacked our right wing, and about fifty of our men were stationed there, a desperate struggle ensued, but our men poured such a deadly fire into their ranks they were compelled to retire and seek protection behind a fence. Of the movements of our troops I do not wish to speak, as it would not be prudent for me to do so, but our citizens are not much alarmed. With such fighting men as we have here, commanded by brave and gallant officers, we feel that we are in no great danger at present—News has just arrived here that the Yankees have given back about a mile from their position this morning. Our forces have advanced and now occupy our works at Gum Swamp.

MERCURY.

CHARLOTTE.

Monday Morning, May 4, '63.

The News.

Highly important news from Virginia and several points in the West will be found under our telegraphic head.

The good Lord has been pleased to crown our arms with brilliant success everywhere heard from, and the enemy has been routed and driven into a rapid retreat. May the presence of God be ever present with our brave soldiers, and His arm be bared for our defence for in Him must we hope for defence and refuge.

Conscription of Foreigners.

Some two weeks ago Mr. Clay, of Alabama, introduced into the Confederate Senate a bill to conscribe and place in the military service all aliens domiciled in the Confederate States, on and after the first day of June, 1863. The bill was partly

considered in open session and then transferred to the secret calendar. On Saturday the injunction of secrecy was removed and the measure has been defeated. The danger that an attempt to conscribe aliens would involve us in difficulties with foreign nations, it is said to have been the argument that killed the bill.

The Tumble in Prices.

Flour sold at Vendue Range, in this city, on Wednesday last, at \$50 per barrel, and the tendency is still downward. The Augusta Chronicle of yesterday says:—“Prices are indeed tending downward, as is shown by the sales at auction, by W. B. Griffin & Co., of this city, yesterday. Flour was sold at \$25 to \$45 per barrel, bacon, 67¢ per lb.; rice, old, 10¢; new, 13¢; brandy, \$14 to \$20 per gallon; yarns, \$12.37 per bunch.”

Later from Fredericksburg—A Battle Momentarily Expected—Our Army in Line of Battle.

From the Richmond Examiner.]

We have had a conversation with a gentleman who left Fredericksburg yesterday, at 1 o'clock, P. M. The news grows more exciting. He reports our whole army drawn up in line of battle, and an engagement momentarily expected. Our forces occupy pretty much the same ground and our line of battle varies in position very slightly from that held in the last battle—the only difference being that some points of our line are a little further back. Our line of battle crosses the railroad at Hamilton's Crossing, about four miles from Fredericksburg, and stretches—it is not prudent for me to say.

No impediment had been offered to the enemy's crossing, and it was therefore presumed that they had crossed over in immense force. There was no way of estimating their force, but it was the general opinion that not less than fifty regiments had crossed. Up to one o'clock yesterday all was quiet, and our army, in line of battle, was quietly awaiting the gage of battle from the enemy. In the morning shells were occasionally thrown by the enemy, but as the morning advanced this ceased and all became quiet. The Yankees had their balloon up reconnoitering our position. About 12 o'clock a tremendous cheer arose and ran along our line, and for a while it was thought to be a signal of the opening of the battle, but no other reason could be given for it than the spirit of enthusiasm of our gallant troops.

Ascertaining that the enemy was heavily reinforced during the night, I withdrew my force early the next morning to Harrodsburg and thence to this point. Maj. Gen. Smith arrived at Harrodsburg with most of his forces and Wither's Division the next day, (10th,) and yesterday I withdrew the whole to this point, the enemy following slowly, but not ceasing, as mature movements cannot be induced, as they will depend in a great measure on those of the enemy.

The campaign here was predicated on a belief, and the most positive assurances, that the people of this country would rise en masse to assert their independence. No people ever had so favorable an opportunity, but I am distressed to add, there is little or no disposition to avail themselves of it. Willing, perhaps, to assert their independence, they are neither disposed nor willing to risk their lives or their property in its achievement. With ample means to arm 20,000 men, and a force with that, fully to redeem the State, we have not yet issued half the arms left us by casualties incident to the campaign.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General Commanding
To Adjutant General, Richmond, Va.

We have received, from a private source the following dispatch, which may be relied on:

General Stuart is said to have crossed the Rappahannock and attacked the enemy's

column, near Middens, north of the river. He captured prisoners from three different corps. The enemy were still crossing the Rappahannock late last evening.

General Bragg's Report of the Battle of Perryville.

We present our readers the following report of the battle of Perryville, which we believe has but recently been published. It throws much light on the Kentucky campaign, and will doubtless remove many erroneous impressions that have prevailed in reference to that movement:

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT No. 2, Bryantville, Ky., Oct. 12th.

Six—By a great pressure of active engagements I have been unable to communicate since my last dispatch until now. My rapid tour of inspection was suddenly terminated at Frankfort, just at the close of the ceremony of installing the provisional Governor into office. A heavy advance of the enemy on that point rendered it necessary for me to concentrate my forces. Gen. Polk was at the same time heavily pressed at Bardstown, and he, in accordance with previous orders, fell back towards Harrodsburg.

Not having succeeded in getting my supplies from Lexington to my new depot near Bryantville, it was necessary to hold as large a portion of Gen. Smith's forces in that direction.

Finding the enemy pressing heavily in his rear near Perryville, Maj. Gen. Hardee, of Polk's command, was obliged to halt and check him at that point. Having arrived at Harrodsburg from Frankfort, I determined to give him battle there, and accordingly concentrated three divisions of my old command, the army of the Mississippi, now under Maj. Gen. Polk—Cheatham's, Buckner's and Anderson's, and directed Gen. Polk to take the command on the 7th, and attack the enemy next morning.

Withers' division had gone the day before to support Smith. Hearing on the night of the 7th that the force in front of Smith had rapidly retreated, I moved early next morning to be present at the operations of Polk's forces. The two armies were found confronting each other on opposite sides of the town of Perryville. After consulting with the General, reconnoitering the ground, and examining his dispositions, I declined to assume the command, but suggested some changes and modifications of his arrangements which he promptly adopted.

The action opened at 12 p. m., between the skirmishers and artillery on both sides. Finding the enemy indisposed to advance upon us, and knowing he was reserving his main force, I deemed it best to assail him vigorously, and so directed.

The engagement became general soon thereafter, and continued vigorously from that time until dark, our troops never failing and never faltering in their efforts. From the time engaged it was the severest and most desperately contested engagement within my knowledge. Fearfully outnumbered, our troops did not hesitate to engage at any odds, and though checked at times, they eventually carried every position, and drove the enemy about two miles. But for the intervention of night we would have completed the work. We had captured 15 pieces of artillery, by the most daring charges, killed and wounded two Brigadier Generals and a very large number of inferior officers and men, estimated at no less than 4,000 and captured 400 prisoners, including three staff officers with servants, carriage and baggage of Maj. Gen. McCook. The ground was literally covered with his dead and wounded.

In such a conflict our loss was necessarily more—probably not less than 2,500 killed, wounded and missing. Included in the wounded are Brigadier Generals Cleburne, Wood and Brown, gallant and noble soldiers, whose loss will be severely felt by their commands.

To Maj. Gen. Polk, commanding the forces, Maj. Gen. Hardee, commanding the left wing, two divisions, and Maj. Gen. Cheatham, Buckner and Anderson, commanding divisions, is mainly due the brilliant achievements on this memorable field. Nobler troops were never more gallantly led, the country owes them a depth of gratitude which I am sure will be acknowledged.

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I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,

General Commanding

To Adjutant General, Richmond, Va.

There was barely enough water on Harepeth Shaks in Cumberland river, last Saturday, to float a steamboat drawing three and a half feet water.

Important to Soldiers.

Soldiers writing to their friend's must stamp on the envelope "Soldier's Letter," in order to derive advantage from the franking privilege granted to persons in the army.

We find the above in the Chattanooga *Advertiser*. Let us hope the paragraph should mislead the soldier, we would state that the person availing himself of this privilege allowed by our postal law, must write his name, regiment and company upon the letter, else the postmaster will not and ought not, pay any attention to it, but detain it in his office as a dead letter. The reason is obvious. Any person might write "Soldier's Letter."

H. K. Burgwyn, Esq., has been appointed by the Secretary of War as a Commissioner to assist in the assessment of property impressed for the use of the Government in North Carolina.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

OF THE

CITY OF CHARLOTTE, N. C.

CONFEDERATE GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND OFFICERS.

Commandant Naval Station—Captain Ap. E. Jones; Adj't General—Major General with side Trade street; Adj't Office & Trade streets.

Acting Executive Officer—John Owen, office at Navy Yard.

Paymaster—John Johnson, office at Confederate State Mint, south side Trade street.

Burgess—Charles H. Williamson; office at Naval Store, south side Tryon street.

Postmaster—John Johnson, office at Naval Store, south side Tryon street.

Postage—Wm. H. Peters, store south side Tryon street.

Quartermaster Confederate States Army—R. J. Edwards, A. Q. M.; office south side North Carolina Railroad.

Commissioner Confederate State Army—C. E. Jones, A. C. S.; office east side Trade street.

Transportation Officer—Rev. G. M. Everhard; office at Quartermaster's Department.

Adj't General Perryville—James T. Johnson; office at North Carolina Military Institute, south side Town.

Confederate States Depository—A. Williamson, C. D. C.; office east side Trade street, corner Tryon and Church streets.

Government Cotton Buyer—L. S. Williams, G. C.; office east side Trade street, between Tryon and College streets.

CIVIL CORPORATION OFFICERS.

Major—Robt. F. Davidson, office south side Tryon street.

Secretary—Rev. W. A. Dickey, office south side Tryon street.

Treasurer—Wm. W. Dewey, office south side Tryon street.

Postmaster—John Johnson, office south side Tryon street.

Postage—Wm. H. Peters, store south side Tryon street.

Post Office—Office south side Tryon street.